

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JBE 19-3

## SUSPENSION OF EARLY VOTING

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:401.1 provides a procedure whereby the emergency suspension or delay and rescheduling of qualifying, early voting and elections can occur when there is a possibility of an emergency or common disaster occurring before or during a regularly scheduled or special election "in order to ensure maximum citizen participation in the electoral process and provide a safe and orderly procedure for persons seeking to qualify or exercise their right to vote, to minimize to whatever degree possible a person's exposure to danger during declared states of emergency, and to protect the integrity of the electoral process...";

WHEREAS, early voting for the May 4, 2019 proposition elections is scheduled to be conducted on April 20, 2019 through April 27, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. in the Parish of Allen; and

WHEREAS, on April 25, 2019, state offices in Allen Parish were closed due to power outages associated with extreme weather and, pursuant to the provisions of La. R.S. 18:401.1(B), the Secretary of State has certified and recommended that early voting be suspended on Thursday, April 25, 2019 starting at 12:00 noon at 105 North 5th Street, Oberlin, Louisiana 70655 and be resumed at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, April 26, 2019 at 105 North 5th Street, Oberlin, Louisiana 70655.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: Under the authority of La. R.S. 18:401.1(8) and based on the April 25, 2019 certification and recommendation from the Secretary of State that a state of emergency exists, early voting is suspended on Thursday, April 25, 2019 starting at 12:00 noon at 105 North 5th Street, Oberlin, Louisiana 70655 and early voting shall be resumed at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, April 26, 2019 at 105 North 5th Street, Oberlin, Louisiana 70655.

**SECTION 2:** This order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect unless amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE